

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, NEUCHATEL - QUARTERLY REPORT

DIVISION : QUALITY ASSURANCE + TECHNICAL SERVICES  
SUBJECT TITLE : VISUAL QUALITY AUDIT  
PERIOD COVERED : OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1988  
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KEYWORDS : market, survey, handbook, standards

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**ASSISTANCE TO Z.P.T. FACTORY, KRAKOW, POLAND (RFJ)**  
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A visit was paid to the Z.P.T. factory to train the quality control staff, give them information on quality criteria according to PME standards and make them generally more concerned about quality.

Operators and fitters were also given precise information on PME quality requirements.

The quality level observed should be improved by making several suitable adjustments and technical modifications.

Recommendations were made to AOD (1).

**MARKET SURVEYS (RFJ)**  
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The following markets were audited in 1988:

Belgium - France - Germany - Italy - The Netherlands -  
Switzerland.

Inspection is completed on all markets.

Reports are in progress and will be issued during the forthcoming quarter.

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HANDBOOK FOR VISUAL QUALITY AUDIT OF FINISHED PRODUCTS (MMO)

Objective

Develop a revised Handbook for Quality of Finished Products, jointly with PM-USA. Implementation of the new procedure is expected to take place within PME on January 1st, 1990.

Status on Packaging

The final draft of new packaging defect definitions has been established jointly with PM-USA and will be approved in the first quarter 1989.

Status on cigarettes

A draft of new cigarette defect definitions has been prepared and was sent to the affiliates to have their comments.

Plans

- Establish a final draft of cigarette defect definitions jointly between PM-USA and PM-QA (first quarter 1989).
- Develop the inspection procedure of packaging (1st quarter 1989).
- Establish a parallel test on packaging between PM-USA and PME-QA (1st quarter 1989).

REFERENCES

- (1) Report by Jacquet-R. dd. November 3, 1988

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